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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q61026

RECEIVED

Hidehiro MATSUMOTO

JUL 15 2003

Appln. No.: 09/680,479

Group Art Unit: 2174

Technology Center 2100

Confirmation No.: 8765

Examiner: Truc T. CHUONG

Filed: October 6, 2000

For: PORTABLE TERMINAL SYSTEM, PORTABLE TERMINAL, METHOD OF CONTROLLING PORTABLE TERMINAL, AND STORAGE MEDIUM STORING PROGRAM FOR CONTROLLING PORTABLE TERMINAL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H10-354593, published September 25, 1998.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. S63-150719, published June 23, 1988.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H8-221173, published August 30, 1996.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H8-272572, published October 18, 1996.
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H10-84404, published March 31, 1998.

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6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H9-97235, published April 8, 1997.
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H1-280821, published November 13, 1989.
8. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H3-30009, published February 8, 1991.
9. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H9-106319, published April 22, 1997.
10. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H2-186417, published July 20, 1990.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.


The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

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waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: July 11, 2003

Ref. Q61026

Prior Art Literature 1: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H10-254593
Prior Art Literature 2: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. S63-150719
Prior Art Literature 3: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H8-221173

Remarks

Regarding Claims 1 to 4, 8 to 10, and 14 to 17:

Described in Prior Art Literature 1 is a technology that uses a browser to display a web page (equivalent to the "main text contents" of the present application) acquired from a server, and that, on command, acquires help information (equivalent to the "help contents" of the present application) related to said web page from the server, and displays this help information together with the said web page. A person skilled in the art could easily invent the invention related to Claims 1 to 4, 8 to 10, and 14 to 17 based on the said technology using a well-known portable terminal as the terminal to display information from the browser.

Regarding Claims 5 to 7 and 11 to 13:

Technology that flashes a display lamp corresponding to the usable input key from among multiple input keys (equivalent to the "switch" of the present application), and that prevents input signals from the input keys prohibited for use is well-known as technology to present help information to a user such as, for example, in the technology described in Prior Art Literature 2. Therefore, even with the technology for the help information described in Prior Art Literature 1, a configuration that flashes a display lamp corresponding to the usable input key from among multiple input keys and that prevents input signals from the input keys prohibited for use poses no unique technical difficulty, and a person skilled in the art could easily conceive of the invention related to Claims 5, 6, 11, and 12 of the present application.

Technology that causes input keys to vibrate is widely known as a user input supplementary technology, as described, for example, in Prior Art Literature 3, therefore we can find no progress in the invention related to claims 7 and 13 of the present application wherein the input keys vibrated as an input guide to the user.

Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

Searched fields IPC 7th Ed. G06F15/00, G06F3/02
G06F3/00, G06F13/00

DB name

Prior Art Literature

- A: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H8-272572
Technology that uses lights from LEDs corresponding to the buttons to push and audio to guide manipulation of a mobile communications terminal.
- B: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H10-84404
- C: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H9-97235
- D: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H1-280821
- E: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H3-30009
- F: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H9-106319

G: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H2-186417

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.